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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT N

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR.

5 June 1950

SUBJECT

21st Tank Brigade

NO. OF PAGES

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NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

3 Annexes\*

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DATE OF INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

1. Superior headquarters: A command headquarters at the Ministry of National Defense, as far as source by

2. Utvar No .: 4664.

3. Location: Volynskych Cachi Lyracks on the eastern town perimeter. The brigade headquarters and the headquarters of the submachine gun battalion were located in the town center.

4. Officers at Brig Hc: CO: Col Jaroslav Miksicek (promoted to the rank of brigade general in October 1949), a moderate Communist. Opty CO: Lt Col Novak (his promotion to the rank of colonal was due), pretended to be an ardent Communist.

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5. Organization:

CO: Cupt Hrdlicka.

Lt Col Klein, the previous CO, had been sentenced to six years' imprisonment in connection with the Sabela affair.

Capt Drabek, the previous 60, had been sentenced to seven years in jail, also in connection with the babels affair,

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SMG Bn It Col Biciste, an officer of the battalion, had been detached to Loscow for training purposes.

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Armament: Two hundred Soviet T31 tenks (estimated) About 100 Cromwell tanks About 50 Carrier half-track vehicles.

The Soviet tanks, new 134 tanks with 85-mm guns, had arrived in Later about July 1949 about 20 rail shipments of 10 tanks each. They had been shipped via Turcansky Sv. Martin and Milovice, according to a soldier of the escort party.

- Training: One-month individual training with rifles, followed by 6 to 7-week special training for tank drivers, gunners, and radio operators. Submachine gunners were trained separately. Apart from participating in the large-scale summer maneuvers in the Maiserwald the brigade held no joint exercises with other units.
- Supply depots of the brigade: Technical supply depot in Dobricany (N 51/F 10) (see Annex 2). Ammunition depot mear Matec (see Annex 3).

### Comment:

The data on the location and organization of the 21st Tank Brig confirm previous information, with the exception of the statement that the brigade is directly under the Ministry of Rational Lefense. The 21st Tank Brig actually belongs to the Trague 5th Ltz Inf Div.

- b. The information on the arrival in Matec of T34/85 tenks in July 1949 is noteworthy. Other sources later reported on the arrival in Zatec of tanks and on rail shipments of new T34/85 tanks through Slovakia toward Moravia in September 1949.
- c. It is believed that the T34/85 tanks were delivered from the Soviet Union and were used for the reequipment with Soviet tanks of the Czechoslovakian tank arm but it is still not known to what degree the 21st Tank Brig has now been rescuipped with Soviet tanks.
- 3 Annexes: 1. "Volynskych Cechu" Barracks in Tatec, Czechoslovakia.
  - 2, Technical Depot of the 21st Tank Brig in Dobricany.
  - Adminition Depot of the 21st Tank Erig

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### CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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#### Legend to Annex 1

### Volynskych Cechu Barracks, Zatec

- 1. Cuarters of the submachine gun company
- 2. Tank school and PX
- 3. Quarters of the 1st and 2d Tank Cos
- 4. Cuarters of the repair shop company
- 5. Tank school
- 6. Equipment depot and dispensary
- 7. Quarters of the 3rd and 4th Tank Cos
- 8. Battalion headquarters and telephone exchange
- 9. Cuarters of the headquarters company
- 10. New kitchen
- 11. Motion picture theater
- 12. Cuarter: of a mixed tank company
- 13. Offices
- 14. Mustering area for troops
- 15. Transformer station
- 16. Tank garages
- 17. Ordnance workshop
- 18. Tachnical workshops
- 19a Old kitchen
- 19b Tank workshops
- 20. Tank garages
- 21. to 27. Garages for tanks and notor vehicles (as no garage space was available for the newly issued boviet tanks; the construction of more parages along the eastern side of the barracks area was started).

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- 31. Underground gasoline container, 7 meters long and 3 meters in discreter
- 32. Garages under construction.

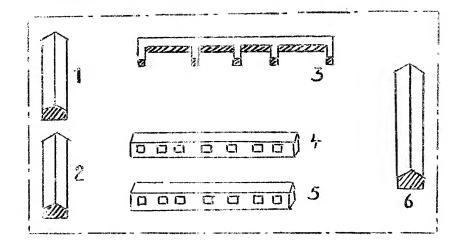
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Technical Depot of the Zist Tank Brig in DOBRICANY

TRNOVANY



not to scale

### legend s

- 1 Guardhouse and storerooms for spare parts of wheeled vehicles
- 2 Storerooms for spare parts of tanks
- 3 Concrete revetments, about 13 feet high, for storage of gasoline and oil
- 4 to 6 Storerooms for engine spare parts of tanks and wheeled vehicles.

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